



STAFF PHOTO/CHRIS BERNSTEIN

Clark Island (left) and Saquish are off in the distance as HMS deckhand Todd Conklin furls the main top yard as the tall ship arrives in Duxbury Bay Friday afternoon.

Waves of people visit ship

Rose event helps maritime school blossom

By Lesley Mahoney
STAFF WRITER

Between the time the HMS Rose made its way into Duxbury Harbor Friday afternoon and the time it bid adieu to the Town Pier in the wee hours Monday morning, 8,000 people showed up at Mattakeesett Court in Snug Harbor to catch a glimpse of her.

Of that crowd, 5,000 people toured the ship on Saturday and Sunday. In all, events held in conjunction with and aboard the Rose raised \$52,000 for the new Duxbury Bay Maritime School. That money will be added to the

approximate \$2 million already raised by the school.

With sailing classes set to begin next month, the weekend marked the school's grand opening.

"I'm thrilled," said Kim Cully, chairman of the Rose event. "Seeing that harbor come alive like that was fantastic. You couldn't have asked for a better weekend."

Cully, who said people hailed as far as Framingham to see the ship, credited all the volunteers and sponsors that made the weekend-long event possible.

"It was a fantastic weekend. It was billed as a fund-raiser in part and I don't care if we didn't make a red cent. Just to see all the people come down to the waterfront was wonderful. People just kept coming and coming and coming," said Michael Horn, the school's executive director.

While the numbers aren't in yet

for new sign-ups, Horn said close to 200 registration forms were passed out over the weekend. To date, 400 youths and 42 adults have signed up for classes. Horn said some room is still left in the youth classes.

"It was absolutely fabulous. It couldn't have gone better," said Harbormaster Donald Beers.

"The hard part for us, the part that gave us anxiety, was getting her in and out of the harbor," he said. The dredged channel, which is five miles long and 100 feet wide has a maintained depth of nine feet.

"It was very important that we stayed within the working channel," said Beers, who helped guide the 179-foot long and 32-foot wide vessel into the harbor from Gurnet Point.

From six miles out of Sandwich, Executive Officer Peter Smey as-

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sisted the boat on its journey. In particular, he helped to guide it around corners. The Plymouth Harbormaster also aided the Rose as it made its way into Duxbury. Beers also credited Barney Davis of Bayside Marine for loaning a 1,500 pound Navy anchor and its 500-foot line that helped to account for wind.

"It was terrific that it was so successful. It certainly will go down in my and Peter's career as a high point," Beers said.

"It was wonderful to see people just stand there in awe and see something so magnificent in front of them. It was something for me to see people experience it here. It certainly brought a real awareness to what Duxbury Bay is and what it's worth," he said.



STAFF PHOTO/CHRIS BERNSTEIN

Winsor House owner David O'Connell joins in the ship duties of hoisting a sail.